

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Original) A method for receiving publications and forwarding said publications on to parties who have subscribed to receive such publications, said method comprising:

receiving a subscription request of a first type, said request including a filter expression having at least one attribute;

mapping at least part of an attribute to a generic format (generic format filter attribute);

receiving a publication message of a second type;

comparing the publication received with the subscription request to determine whether the publication is appropriate for forwarding onto the subscriber originating the request, the step of comparing comprising:

identifying a generic format filter attribute; and

mapping the generic format filter attribute to a format corresponding to the second message type, the method further comprising:

transmitting said publication to the originating subscriber.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

preparing the publication for transmission to said originating subscriber.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of preparing the publication for transmission to said originating subscriber comprises:

creating a substantially empty message of said first type;

extracting information from the message of said second type; and

inputting said information into said substantially empty message.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, 9 or 10, wherein the step of mapping at least part of an attribute to a generic format comprises:

invoking a first component capable of understanding messages of said first type.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, 9 or 10, comprising:

storing said generic format filter attribute.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of any of claims 8, 9 or 10, wherein the step of mapping a generic format filter attribute to a format corresponding to the second message type comprises:

invoking a second component capable of understanding messages of said second type.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of any of claims 8, 9 or 10, wherein said format corresponding to the second message type is held in temporary storage until said comparison is complete.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer usable program code, said computer program product adapted to perform the method of any of claims 8 to 14 when said program is run on a computer.